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INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

11 March 82

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HPSCI staff belatedly passed to us a copy of a letter Rep. C.W. Bill Young (R FL) sent to the President.

You will remember that there was great interest in the "robustness" of our FCI effort expressed during the HPSCI NFIP Overview on 23 Feb. This is another indication of the seriousness with which at least the Republicans on HPSCI view the FCI problem.

OCC/LCS

INFORMATION

C. W. BILL YOUNG
6TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

PERMANENT SELECT
COMMITTEE ON
INTELLIGENCE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

February 25, 1982

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President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D. C. 20500

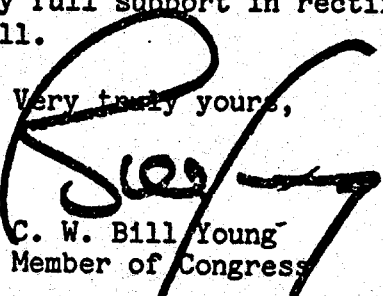
Dear Mr. President:

As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I have reviewed the Fiscal Year 1983 National Foreign Intelligence Program budget request and find the level of resources for the Federal Bureau of Investigation's foreign counterintelligence investigations inadequate to meet the challenge of the 1980s. I believe the budget request stands in contrast to this Administration's declared policy to deal with the growing threat posed by hostile foreign intelligence services operating within the United States.

As I understand it, the foreign counterintelligence budget was constrained by manpower and funding limitations placed on the Department of Justice by the Office of Management and Budget. The OMB restrictions imposed required the Department of Justice to make adjustments at the expense of other intradepartmental functions. While it is understandable that tradeoffs among competing programs are always difficult to make, I am persuaded that the foreign counterintelligence program is critical to our national security and must be given special consideration.

Because of the classified nature of this program, I have conveyed my concerns to you in general terms; however, I would be pleased to meet with you or your staff and discuss this issue in greater detail. Mr. President, I urge you to take whatever action is appropriate, including a FY 1983 budget amendment if necessary, to bring the Bureau's foreign counterintelligence program to the operational capability needed to counter this exceptionally grave threat. You may be assured that you have my full support in rectifying this undesirable budget shortfall.

Very truly yours,


C. W. Bill Young
Member of Congress